Health-cum-Nutrition Project for World Bank assistance is cover the nutritionally deficient tribal areas of the State.

(c) These proposals have been invited by the Central Government from various States including Madhya Pradesh to explore the possibilities of their viability implementation and financial support from various agencies.

Latin American Studies Programme at J.N.U.

3181. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are taking to ensure an increase in strength of the Latin American studies programme of Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi; and

(b) whether Government has assessed the importance of having better academic base in our universities so as to increase contacts with a number of Latin American countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI) (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the matter is being examined by the Commission in consultation wih the Jawaharlal Nehru University

(b) The Commission on the advice of its Advisory Committee on Area Studies appointed a small group of experts who visited JNU, Poona, Goa and Bombay Universities to explore the prospects of developing Latin American Studies. The Commission accepted the recommendation of the group for the establishment of a centre of Latin American Studies at the University of Goa.

Implementation of New Education Policy in Tamil Nadu

3182. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made in the implementation of the New Education Policy in Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) According to the information received from Government of Tamil Nadu, the following components of National Policy on Education, 1986 are under implementation in the State of Tamil Nadu:—

1. Under Operation Blackboard, 77 Blocks have been taken up for development in the first phase of the programme, 50 single-teacher schools have been converted into double-teacher schools, 5995 primary schools have been provided with teaching-learning materials, 58 primary schools are being provided with school buildings and 81 schools will have additional buildings. In the second phase, 80 blocks will be covered and 619 single teacher-schools will be provided with a second teacher, 6098 primary schools will be supplied teaching learning materials, 51 schools will be provided with buildings and 293 schools with additional buildings.

2. District Institutes of Education and Training are being set up in 7 districts.

3. As part of vocationalisation of education at plus two level, vocational courses are being introduced in 100 schools.